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Author(s) : S.Radhakrishnan, R.Rangaraju, A.C.Raghuram & V.Ramachandran	Contents 4 pages incl. 5 figures
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Abstract : During a check flight of a Chetak helicopter, severe vibration was experienced and the sortie abandoned. One of the tail rotor blades had sheared off at the outboard rib trailing edge. Severe inward caving at the midsection and cracking of the paint on the outer skin were noticed. The observed damages are attributable to a hit by a foreign object near the outboard tip at the leading edge.	